NCFE Level 2 Functional Skills Qualification in English (603/5054/4)

NCFE Level 2 Functional Skills Qualification in English: Reading

Paper number: **Practice Paper 2**

Time allowed**: 1 hour**

Learner instructions

- Use black ink.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Read **each** question carefully.
- Write your responses in the spaces provided.
- All of the work you submit **must** be your own.

Learner information

- The marks available for each question are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 30.
- The use of a dictionary is permitted.

Do not turn over until the invigilator tells you to do so.

Please complete / check your details below

Learner name:

Centre name:

Learner number:

Centre number:

Practice Paper

All the material in this publication is © NCFE.

Examiner use only

Document 1

www.realitytvblogspot.uk

Home | Contact | About | Login

GET ON TV!

Contributed by Amy Ritchie, 8.29 am, 5 January

We all LOVE reality television. Just look at how many stars of reality television programmes have successful careers in modelling or television presenting, and that's exactly what I want. I want to be famous. Over the last decade, I have applied to appear on hundreds of reality television programmes. Who knows? I may even discover my own 'Mr Right' on TV. Because, thousands of applications later, I will FINALLY be making my debut appearance next month on Next Date. Here are my tips on how to get on TV.

Raise your profile

Are you on social media? Most shows utilise social media to announce casting auditions. I'm extremely active on social media. It's vitally important to be seen by the right people. In fact, I found out about a brand new reality cooking show through a contact I made online. Every little helps.

Mailing lists

Don't waste time watching television to find out which shows are being cast! You can get notifications directly to your inbox. So, whatever your thing is – fitness, cooking, dating, quiz shows – make sure you register on this mailing list www.realshows.biz/casting for notifications. Yesterday I received a newsletter about a show asking for couples to appear on a home swap. A couples' show is no good for me, but I did apply to appear on Win a Million through the same newsletter last month. It wasn't advertised anywhere else.

The big call

If you're fortunate enough to get through the online application, your next obstacle is a telephone call. I cannot stress how important this is. It's your BIG chance to demonstrate that you're worth seeing in person. If you want that sought-after audition spot, you'll only have a few minutes to impress.

Callbacks

If the producers like the sound of you, after the telephone call, you'll be asked to attend a face-to-face interview. I've applied to just about every dating show and can promise that the way they cast is identical. Basically, you get asked about your dating history on camera.

Prepare for the unexpected

When I applied for a programme called Catapult, I was trussed in a harness and fired into a ball pit from an enormous catapult. I even auditioned for a dating programme where I was given miniature electric shocks supposed to measure my 'capacity for compassion'! Auditioning for Win a Million was a real slog. You have to get at least 38 questions out of 40 in the assessment right, or you're ejected. I managed to get 37. So near, yet so far…

If you can think of it, I've applied for it. And now my shot at fame is within grasp! See you on the box.

Examiner use only

Examiner use only

Section 1

The questions in this section refer to Document 1.

This section has a possible **8 marks** available.

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

1 What **best** describes the tone of Document 1?

[1 mark]

A Enthusiastic

B Forceful

C Objective

D Serious

Answer _____

2 One of the main messages of Document 1 is that Amy has tried hard to appear on television.

Give **one** quotation from the document that supports this message.

[1 mark]

.....

.....

3 Identify **one** example of **each** of the following in Document 1.

a) Fact

[1 mark]

.....

.....

b) Opinion

[1 mark]

.....

.....

Practice Paper

Examiner use only

Examiner use only

4 What is the meaning of the word 'slog', as used in the 'Prepare for the unexpected' section?

You may use a dictionary to help you answer this question.

[1 mark]

.....

.....

5 Which section tells the reader how to get regular notifications about show castings?

[1 mark]

.....

.....

6 Give **two** quotations from Document 1 that imply Amy is single.

[2 marks]

.....

.....

.....

.....

Practice Paper

Examiner use only

This page is intentionally left blank.

Please turn over for Section 2.

Practice Paper

Document 2

BROADCAST MONTHLY
January

THE RUBBISH OF REALITY

By Ronan Smith, Columnist

I cannot remember the exact moment when I realised that almost every single new television programme no longer genuinely entertained or made me think for myself. These days, our screens are filled with bargain-basement, often scripted, reality programmes that focus on the trivia of boring, everyday tasks: cooking, baking, fitness, health, dating, family life and even DIY. Seemingly, there isn't an aspect of the absolutely mundane that doesn't have its own specialist 'reality' show. It saps my energy.

Money driven

From every television channel, we are bombarded with the most abysmal drivel. How did this happen? Retired TV executive Gita Hari explains why. "Cost is the driving force. You have to pay actors to appear on television and writers to write the shows. Sets, locations and all those other things that make quality television cost money. When producing reality television shows, many of these things just aren't necessary."

Brain numbing

Critics have branded some shows as 'crimes against television'. People could be improving their minds watching intellectual programmes, documentaries and quiz shows but instead millions willingly waste time watching worthless TV. Why, you ask? Simply because they want to. These are the most watched genres based on viewing figures:

1. Competitions
2. Dating
3. Social experiment
4. Lifestyle
5. Self-improvement

We can't get enough

Unfortunately, the Great British Public is lapping it up. The most popular shows have loyal viewers alongside millions of followers on social media. Viewing figures show that almost 14 million people watched the most popular reality TV show last year. And the final of a reality dance competition was the third-most-watched TV show of the year. These are viewing figures that documentary programme makers can only dream of, with even the most popular documentary last year struggling to get more than 5 million viewers.

Here to stay?

Who'd have thought that the garbage they hurl out right now would make me yearn for the old-fashioned television shows of my childhood? The reality genre even has its own national awards ceremony. So, whatever you may think of reality television, it appears that it's here to stay.

Count me out – I'll be switching off.

Section 2

The questions in this section refer to Document 2.

This section has a possible **9 marks** available.

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

7 Identify whether **each** of the following quotations from Document 2 is an example of a **factual** or an **informal** style.

[2 marks]

Quotation	Factual or Informal
…the final of a reality dance competition was the third-most-watched TV show of the year.	
Count me out – I'll be switching off.	

8 Give **one** example of **each** of the following features used by the writer to express their ideas.

a) Alliteration

[1 mark]

.....

.....

b) Exaggeration

[1 mark]

.....

.....

Practice Paper

9 Why has the writer used **each** of the following organisational features?

a) Numbered list

[1 mark]

.....

.....

b) Caption

[1 mark]

.....

.....

Practice Paper

10 Give **two** reasons why the writer has provided statistics in the 'We can't get enough' section.

[2 marks]

.....

.....

.....

.....

11 What is the meaning of the word 'branded' in the 'Brain numbing' section?

You may use a dictionary to help you answer this question.

[1 mark]

.....

.....

Please turn over for Section 3.

Practice Paper

Document 3

www.getreal.tv.biz

GET REAL FORUM

Share your views about Reality TV

Lucy

Is anyone else obsessed with 'Catapult'? I haven't seen anything as entertaining in years. That moment when the contestants are strapped into the harness and look over the edge… OMG, it makes me laugh out loud every time! Dating shows were my go-to programme until now. The only thing wrong with the show, in my opinion, is the 'prize'. It's not enough cash. But then, contestants do get flown to the Grand Canyon to take part. The greatest thing is the presenters, Jay and Dave. They are my all-time favourites. When they are involved in a television programme, it's guaranteed to be good. 😊 Okay, I admit I am still a fan of 'Next Date', but if I had to choose between the two, 'Catapult' would win hands down!

Like Disike Comment

Kimran

Ha! That's like having to make a choice between the devil and the deep blue sea. 🙄 Television programming schedules are rammed with lame karaoke competitions, staged reality TV, or terrible cooking, dating and DIY shows. It's unequivocal – the only thing worth watching on TV is sport.

Like Disike Comment

Molly

Check out 'The Island Escape' on Monday evening, because it will star yours truly! You all know I was cast in January earlier this year. The experience was totally amazing. I was nervous to join, but let me tell you it was a completely perfect way to make amazing friends. Everyone was so kindhearted – well, you'll see. I'm still mates with the whole gang, even though filming finished months ago. I can't disclose any more until it's been televised, as I had to sign a contract. But you will love it – just tune in! 😍 And, with any luck, it will make me famous.

Like Disike Comment

Nathan

Can't wait to see you Molly – you'll be fantastic. Reality television gets a bad rap for not being 'real' at all. How can that be? The shows are bursting with real people doing real challenges. I don't watch TV to learn stuff. I want to be entertained! So what if the producers do a bit of editing for the sake of entertaining us? I don't care! We're living in a golden age of television with more choice and relatability than ever before. Reality television isn't a fad, it's everywhere you look **and** it's great.

Like Disike Comment

Section 3

The questions in this section refer to Document 3.

This section has a possible **6 marks** available.

Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

12 Give **two** reasons why Lucy thinks 'Catapult' is such an enjoyable TV show.

[2 marks]

.....

.....

.....

.....

13 Identify the language feature used in each of these quotations from Document 3.

a) 'The experience was totally amazing.'

[1 mark]

.....

.....

b) '…rammed with lame karaoke competitions…'

[1 mark]

.....

.....

14 Kimran says 'Ha! That's like having to make a choice between the devil and the deep blue sea. Television programming schedules are rammed with lame karaoke competitions, staged reality TV, or terrible cooking, dating and DIY shows.'

Give **two** examples of what can be inferred from Kimran's words.

[2 marks]

.....

.....

.....

.....

Practice Paper

Section 4

The questions in this section refer to multiple documents.

This section has a possible **7 marks** available.

Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

15 Compare the views of Nathan in Document 3 with the views expressed in Document 2, giving examples from **each** text.

In your answer, you should also consider how language is used.

[3 marks]

Practice Paper

16 Analyse **all three** documents and explain which document is the **least** biased.

In your answer, you should refer to language, purpose and bias, giving examples from the texts.

[4 marks]

[Total: 30 marks]

This is the end of the external assessment.

Practice Paper

This page is intentionally left blank.

Practice Paper

This page is intentionally left blank.

Practice Paper

To be completed by the examiner	Mark
Section 1	/ 8
Section 2	/ 9
Section 3	/ 6
Section 4	/ 7
TOTAL MARK	/ 30

Practice Paper